

## Glossary

**Abraham** Patriarchal figure who is the father of the Jewish faith. He championed monotheism and made a special, binding covenant with God.

**Abraham and Moses** The greatest of the Prophet-Messengers. The phrase "peace be upon them" is often written after their names.

**Albright, Madeleine K.** United States Secretary of State, 1996-

**Alexis II, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia** Current patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church

**Anti-Semitism** Overt and covert hatred of Jewish peoples, using religious, economic and political reasons to target and scapegoat Jews. Includes insults, published tracts, restrictions and life-threatening and life-taking events.

**Apostles** Early disciples of Jesus, sent forth by him to proclaim his teachings

**Ascension** Day in Eastern Orthodoxy which recalls Christ's going up into heaven

**Autocephalous** Self-governing nature of Orthodox Eastern churches. Each national church is independent of others, yet possesses full agreement on matters of doctrine and faith.

**Bashkirs** (bahsh-KEER) Ethnic group comprising 0.9 percent of the Russian Federation population. Most are Muslim and have associations with the Chuvash and Tatars. The Muslim center in Ufa of the Bashkortostan Republic is the long-standing hub of Russian Islamic thought and practice.  
before Easter

**Belorussian** (byel-oh-RUSH-ahn) Ethnic group comprising 0.8 percent of the Russian Federation population. Also called the White Russians, this ethnic group makes up the majority of peoples in Belarus, one of the Newly Independent States.

**Bolsheviks** (BOHL-shuh-veeks) Lenin's revolutionary party.  
Changed to Communists after the civil war

**Boris and Gleb, Saints** First Russian Orthodox Saints, sons of Vladimir. Rather than rise up in violence against their accusers, these early believers became humble martyrs for their faith.

**Boyar** (boo-YAHR) Aristocracy class

**Brest, Union of** 1569 decision in the Ukraine which recognized Catholic practice as following the leadership of the pope in Rome while allowing Eastern Orthodox ritual, practice and custom.

**Brezhnev, Leonid** (BREZH-nef, 1906-1982) Khrushchev's successor. Authored "Brezhnev doctrine" which bound socialist states together and justified Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968. Initiated detente, a relaxing of East-West tensions through negotiation and discussion.

**Byzantine** (BIZ-ahn-teen) Relating to the Eastern Roman Empire, A.D. 324/330-1453

**Canaan** Another name for Palestine or the present location of Israel

**Canonize** Process by which the church identifies those who will be saints. Canonization first examines the life and history of the respected individual, then declares them, in successive stages to be blessed, beatified and then canonized a saint.

**Catherine the Great** (ruled 1762-1796) Wife of Peter III, she converted to Eastern Orthodoxy, expanded the empire, implemented Russification on captured subjects, and warred against the Ottoman Turks.

**Chechnya** (chech-NYAH) Area where Russian government forces entered to quell disturbances in December 1994. In Jan 1997, the last Russian soldiers finally left Chechnya.

**Chernobyl** (cher-NOH-buhl) 1986 nuclear disaster at this Ukraine powerplant set back nuclear energy programs in the Soviet Union.

**Chrismation** (KRIZ-may-shun) Confirmation, baptism and first communion event held for an Eastern Orthodox baby

**Church of the Savior Cathedral** Moscow worship facility, originally finished in 1883, which celebrated the Russian stand against Napoleon in 1812. Stalin ordered it blown up in 1931. The dedication of a newly completed Cathedral patterned after the original occurred in September 1997.

**Chuvash** (choo-VAHSH) Ethnic group comprising 1.2 percent of the Russian Federation population. Many live in the middle Volga River area. Most remain geared to rural and agricultural pursuits.

**Commentary** Comments or explanations of scripture. Usually scholars of the texts provide detailed analysis and application in their explanations.

**Commonwealth of Independent States** (CIS) All of the former Soviet republics except the Baltic states, who presently form an association for mutual discussion and cooperation.

**Conservative Judaism** Jewish school of thought which teaches that Torah is binding but new thought can also influence belief.

**Constantinople** (the Second Rome) Eastern capital of the Roman Empire, formerly called Byzantium, currently named Istanbul. Location of the Ecumenical Patriarch of the Eastern Orthodox Church.

**Conventional Forces in Europe** (CFE) Force reductions, weaponry in ally states and verification measures as part of an agreement signed in Paris in November 1990.

**Cossack** (KOS-ak) Russian ethnic group drawn from a number of various tribes of Slavic warriors who settled in the Don River area. These military men formed an elite corps of horsemen in czarist Russia. Their tradition of invincibility continues to this day.

**Covenant** A binding agreement between two partners. In biblical times, the contractual agreement between God and Abraham became central to Jewish theology.

**Creative generalizations** Concepts--tempered with care and refinement, always subject to modification and open to change--which enable us to make careful statements. When kept dynamic, flexible and tentative, this conceptual format enables us to make intelligible statements about others.

**Crimea** (kri-MEE-ah) Peninsula in Russia between the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov.

**Cultural sensitivity** Possession of attitudes and knowledge which enables one to be aware of and interact with differing ethnic, racial and national groups

**Culture** That which guides people in their thinking, acting and feeling. Language, values, customary behaviors; ideas, beliefs and patterns of thinking; these attributes describe social characteristics of a people. The total way of life of a group--passed on from generation to generation

**Culture shock** The disorientation and upset which often accompany traveling to a new country or situation. Emotions vary including euphoria, distress, resentment, hostility, rebellion, and negativity.

**Cyril and Methodius** (SIHR-ahl, mah-THOO-dee-ahs, Saints) Two Orthodox missionaries instrumental in converting many Slavs to Christianity. They helped create the Glagolitic (glag-ah-LIHT-ihk) alphabet, a forerunner of Cyrillic.

**Cyrillic** (suh-RIL-lik) Alphabet introduced by St. Cyril (SIR-ahl) and St. Methodius (mah-THOH-dee-ahs) into Balkan society. Eventually adopted by Russia

**Dar al-Islam** (DAHR ul-is-lam) Abode of Islam. Social justice, solidarity of purpose, political stability are enjoyed by those living under the umbrella of Islamic law.

**Datsan** Buddhist monasteries within Asiatic Russia

**David** King of Israel and Judea, author of many of the Psalms, and leader of many battles against the Canaanites

**Diaspora** (di-AS-pahr-ah) After the A.D. 70 Roman destruction of the temple in Jerusalem, Jewish peoples were dispersed from the land of Palestine, and forced to live outside the area of current Israel.

**Divine Decree** Belief that everything is decided by God and in some sense comes from Him

**Dostoyevski, Fyodor** (FYOH-dor dahs-tuh-YEF-skee, 1821-1881) Russian writer whose dislike of socialism and positive treatment of religion and psychology made his works suspect under the Soviet regime. His novels Crime and Punishment, Notes from the House of the Dead, and the Brothers Karamazov explore the mysteries and depths of the Russian soul.

**Dudayev, General Dzhokar** Chechnyan leader, formerly a member of the Soviet Air Force, who initially led the armed Chechnya/Moscow conflict. He introduced Islam as a factor to bolster national pride and garner international support.

**Duma** (DOO-muh) Assembly established by Nicholas II to bring about legislative reform; Russian parliament

**Dvoeverie** (dvoh-yeh-vyer-EE-yeh) Popular Russian religion where pagan beliefs and practices are preserved under the veneer of Christianity.

**Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople** The "first among equals," the figurative head of Orthodox Eastern Churches

**Epiphany** (ih-PIHF-ah-nee) Orthodox Eastern celebration remembering the baptism of Jesus and manifestation of his divinity with a dove descending upon his head

**Ethnocentrism** Seeing other people's way of life only through one's own "glasses," regarding your own culture as superior in all ways, which leads to unhealthy, proud attitudes, arrogant self-righteousness, and feelings of haughtiness which can destroy personal relationships

**Eucharist** (YOO-kah-rihst) Receiving the bread and wine, the presence of Christ, for reasons of obedience to Scripture and spiritual/physical nourishment, communion

**Exodus** When the Jewish people left Egyptian captivity and headed for the Promised Land

**Free Orthodox Church** Small group of churches near Moscow who comprised an underground church during Soviet times but now lead a more open, though threatened by new laws, existence.

**Freedom of Conscience Laws, 1990** Laws passed by the Russian Parliament which enabled Soviet citizens to select, hold or change religious beliefs as their consciences saw fit.

**Gagarin, Yuri A.** Soviet astronaut who was the first person in space, 12 April 1961

**Glasnost** Openness. Free channels of expression, movement and honesty became more tolerated in Soviet government under Gorbachev.

**Godunov, Boris** (GOD-enohf, 1552-1605) Harsh ruler during the "Time of Troubles" (famine, plague and unrest)

**Gorbachev, Mikhail** (GOHR-buh-chof, 1931 - ) Reform-minded leader who came into power in 1985 in Russia. Perestroika and Glasnost were two key programs he introduced.

**Great Patriotic War** In an effort to arouse patriotism, national feeling and morale during World War II, Stalin relaxed some restrictions imposed by Communism--including those on the Orthodox church--and identified the war by this term.

**Greater Jihad** (ji-HAD) The Greater Jihad (al-jihad al-akbar) refers to the personal struggle of the heart, where the believer strives to overcome personal temptations and the carnal self. This inner struggle is Jihad's highest form. During this Jihad, Muslims strive to internalize the Islamic message through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

**Hadith** (hah-DEETH) The report of the Prophet's utterances in his role as guide. They serve to assist the faithful.

**Hagar** Servant woman of Abraham by whom Abraham fathered a son, Ishmael

**Hagia Sophia** (high-EE-ah suh-FEE-uh) Constantinople's Church of Divine Wisdom, the center of Eastern Orthodoxy. In the 1400s, it became a mosque. Currently, the building is a museum.

**Hajj** (al-HAHJ--pilgrimage) At least once in a lifetime, preferably during the twelfth month of the calendar, a Muslim takes a trip to Mecca. No one goes on Hajj without first ensuring that family members are provided for in their absence.

**Hanukkah** (HAH-nah-kah) Feast of Lights/Feast of Dedication, which celebrates the victory of Judas the Maccabee for religious freedom and rededication of the temple in 165 B.C.

**Hasidim** (hah-SID-im) Jewish Orthodox movement established in Poland in the 18th century, where distinctive dress and language become essential elements of the faith

**Herman, Saint** (d. 1837) Orthodox monk in Kodiak Island area of Alaska defended the rights of native peoples against ruthless Russian traders

**Hesychast** (HES-ah-kast) From the Greek word for quiet, this term identifies a school of Christian asceticism and spirituality advanced at Mt. Athos in Greece. It spread, through monks, to Russian Orthodox monasteries.

**Hijab** (HEHZH-yahb) Traditional Muslim dress of women, often including covering of the head

**Holocaust** (HOL-ah-kohst) Descriptive term to identify the systematic genocide of six million Jewish, plus assorted other peoples, by the Nazis between 1933-1945

**Holy Governing Synod** Peter the Great's reform of Orthodox leadership where ten clerics, with a lay official head, determined church practice rather than a patriarch.

**Iaroslav the Wise** (yuh-ruh-SLUHF, ruled 1036-1054) Ruler who contributed greatly to Russian cultural development. Responsible for the first legal code

**Icon** Flat picture bearing the image of Christ, Mary the Mother of God, or one of the saints

**Id al-Adha** (i-EED ahl-OOHD-hah) Festival of sacrifice remembering Abraham's offering up his son Ismail on the altar. Called "Kurban Bairam" (koor-bahn bah-ee-rahm) in Serbian.

**Imam** (EE-mahm/i-MAHM) Leader in Muslim prayers who often gives a sermonic talk

**Ishmael** First born son of Abraham by his servant woman Hagar

**Islam** (is-LAHM) Obedience or peace through submission to the will of God

**Ivan III, the Great** (1462-1505) Assumed title of tzar and autocrat in Russia. Effectively eliminated Mongol domination and strengthened ties between Orthodox Eastern Christianity and the tzar

**Ivan IV, the Dread** (ruled 1533-1584) Married to a Romanov (ROH-mah-nohf), he became unpredictable and tyrannical after his wife died.

**Janazah** (jah-NAH-zah) Prayer service for Muslims at the graveside

**Jibril** (jib-REEL) (Gabriel), most important angel in Islam. Delivered the Qur'an



**Jihad** (ji-HAD) Sometimes seen as a sixth foundational element of Islam, Western media stereotypes it as "holy war." A more accurate portrayal sees jihad as an exertion or struggle in achieving the ways of God. It (jihad) describes an attentiveness against distractions from God, an exertion to do His will within ourselves and the world at large.

**Jinns** Invisible beings who possess extraordinary powers, being capable of either good or evil

**Jumma** (JUH-mah) Friday noon Muslim congregational prayers

**Kabala** (KAB-ah-lah) A branch of Jewish mysticism which interprets the Scriptures in an esoteric manner, seeking penetration of divine mysteries

**Khazars** Nomadic Turkish ethnic group, living in the Moscow/Ukraine region, who converted to Judaism in the 8th century A.D.

**Khrushchev, Nikita** (ni-KEE-tah kroosh-CHOF, 1894-1971) Soviet leader who denounced Stalin in a secret speech, oversaw the Cuban missile crisis, and ruled with an alternating policy of coexistence and threat.

**Kremlin** (KREM-lin) Fortress made of stone

**Lake Baikal** (bi-KAHL) Russian Lake, deepest in the world, located north of Mongolia. A sizable portion of the Russian Buddhist population lives around the Lake Baikal region.

**Lama** (LAH-mah) Buddhist priests or spiritual leaders

**Lebed, Alexander** General who was victorious in Chechnya for the Russian forces. Dismissed by Yeltsin, he currently serves as a Siberian province leader.

**Lenin, Vladimir** (VLAD-ah-mir LEN-in, 1870-1924) Author of What is to be Done?, a pragmatic article on the Communist takeover. Led the Bolsheviks in the October Revolution. Became first Communist Party head in Russia.

**Lent** Time of fasting, prayer, study and worship some seven weeks

**Lesser Jihad** The Lesser Jihad (al-jihad al-asghar) is the outward struggle of Muslims against those attacking the faith and requires using the tongue, hands, or sword. Only in the last instance, however, do Muslims engage in mortal combat by taking up arms against Islam's enemies.

**Liturgy** (LIT-ahr-jee) Formal public worship and prayer service

**Mahdi** (MAH-dee) Millennial leaders who will defeat enemies of Islamic religion at the end of history

**Martyr** One who dies for their faith

**Maskhadov, Colonel Aslan** Current Chechnyan president who oversees a unique Muslim synthesis within the region

**Mass** Roman Catholic celebration of the Eucharist (communion), a central part of each worship service

**Mawlid al-Nabiy** (MOW lid oon-NA-bee) Birthday of the Prophet Muhammad

**Mazal tov** (MAH-zahl tohv) Hebrew for congratulations. An appropriate saying for after Jewish life-cycle celebrations.

**Metropolitan** Provincial leader within Eastern Orthodox Christianity. The metropolitan is bishop of the metropolis or mother city.

**Mi'Raj al-Nabiy** (mehr-raj al-NEB-bee) Remembers the ascension of the Prophet Muhammad to heaven following his night journey

**Mihrab** (MEE-rahb) A niche in a Mosque prayer room (musallah) which indicates the direction of Mecca

**Military-to-military** Joint peacekeeping exercises carried out between United States Armed Forces and those of other countries (often those of the NIS)

**Mitzvah, Bar/Bat** (MITS-vah, bahr/baht) Initiation rite for Jewish young people aged 13 years and above.

**Moldavian** (mahl-DA-vee-ahn) Ethnic group comprising 0.7 percent of the Russian Federation population. Moldavians speak a language bearing little difference from Romanian. Most are Eastern Orthodox in their religious practice.

**Mongol** (MONG-gahl) Nomad warriors from Central Asia who conquered and ruled Russia, 1240-1480

**Monochronic time** Having a tendency to do only one thing at a time. Describes the approach to time held by many Americans

**Monotheism** Belief in only one god

**Moses** Jewish leader who led the children of Israel out of Egypt in the Exodus

**Mother Teresa of Calcutta** Roman Catholic nun, founder of the Order of the Missionaries of Charity. Born in Skopje of Albanian parents, Mother Teresa became one of the 20th century's most respected women.

**Mt. Athos** (ATH-ohs) Greek mountain, home of many orthodox monasteries, and center of Hesychast (quiet asceticism) practice. Through wandering monks, the ideas of Mt. Athos spread to Russian Orthodox monasteries.

**Muezzin** (MOO-ah-zin) One who calls the faithful Muslims to prayer

**Muhammad** (moo-HAM-mad) The last of the Islamic prophets. Founder of the Muslim faith and most revered messenger of God

**Mujahedin** (moo-ja-hid-OON, "those who undertake jihad") Islamic activists who engage in struggles to resanctify Islamic society in various countries and throughout the world.

**Mullah** (MUH-luh) Shi'ite Muslim religious leader

**Musallah** (muh-SAL-ah) Main prayer room of a mosque

**Muslim** (MOOS-lim) Obedient one (to the will of God)...one who submits

**NATO/Russia Founding Act** 27 May 1997 agreement between NATO and Russia which seeks mutual cooperation and security between both countries. Russia holds no veto power but does possess formal channels to address issues.

**New Independent States** (NIS) Sovereign states formed from the former Soviet Union

**Nicholas I, the Iron Tzar** (1825-1855) A December revolt caused him to clamp down on freedoms and individual thought. Secret police and Siberian camps became common.

**Nicholas II** (ruled 1894-1917) Tzar who, though a good family man, was out of touch with domestic issues in the latter part of his rule.

**Nikon** Russian Orthodox patriarch who held office from 1652-1658. Nikon instituted liturgical reform, prompting the Old Believer schism.

**Nominal** In name only. Having the label of a religion but being very lax in practice of that religion

**North Atlantic Treaty Organization** (NATO) Organization formed in 1949 to seek mutual defense for the United States, Canada and 10 Western nations against the Soviet bloc.

**Ober-Procurator** Term for the civilian official who headed the "Holy Governing Synod" instituted by Peter the Great to oversee the Russian Orthodox Church

**Oblast** (OB-last) An administrative division, corresponding to an autonomous province, within Russia.

**Old Church Slavonic** The first Slavonic literary language which especially influenced development of Russian

**Orthodox Judaism** Jewish law and right doctrine are the defining criteria for this most conservative trend within Judaism.

**Orthodox Protection Law, September 1997** Law signed in to effect by President Boris Yeltsin which gave only four religious bodies--Orthodoxy, Judaism, Islam and Buddhism--full privileges. All others must undergo time-consuming restrictions.

**Ostrogoth** (OST-troh-goth) Warrior barbarians who sacked Rome in A.D. 476.

**Pale of Settlement** Territories, imposed by the Tzarist government, where Jewish peoples in Russia were required to live. In the mid to late 18th century, this region included the Baltic provinces, much of the Ukraine and Belorussia, and the north shore of the Black Sea.

**Paradise** Heaven

**Pascha** (PAS-kah) Orthodox Eastern Easter

**Patriarch** An Eastern Orthodox leader who rules a whole section (Russia, Antioch, Jerusalem, Constantinople) of the church.

**Peace operations** An umbrella term that encompasses the following types of activities--those that diplomatically lead (preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peace building) and other complementary, (predominately military), peacekeeping and peace-enforcement activities

**Penance** Act of reconciliation, confessing sins, and sorrow for those sins, before being declared right before God

**Pentecost** Day marking the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit upon the early church

**Perceptions** Our mental grasp of others and their ideas of us

**Perestroika** Restructuring under Soviet leader Gorbachev. Production focused on what people desired to consume, not on what the state mandated alone.

**Pesah** (PAY-sah) Jewish Passover, commemorating the departure of the Israelites from Egypt

**Peter the Great** (ruled 1689-1725) Western looking tzar who determined to make Russia a Western nation. He reduced the power of the Orthodox Church, expanded the country to warm water ports, and established St. Petersburg, the "window to Europe."

**Philip, Saint** (Moscow Metropolitan 1566-68) Orthodox leader who condemned the excesses of Ivan IV. Saint Philip was deposed and murdered as a result.

**Pogrom** (pah-GRUHM) Devastation which murdered Jewish citizens and burned their houses.

**Politburo** Political Bureau--the Communist Party and Russian Government under Communism

**Polychronic time** Tending to be involved in many things at once. Describes those who live in many non-European countries of the world

**Pope** Roman Catholic bishop of Rome, the one who governs church polity and practice

**Possessors/Non-possessors** Controversy in the medieval Russian Orthodox Church over those who advocate a close union between the powerful ruler and rich, strong church (possessors) and those who thought the church should concern itself with contemplation and spiritual perfection with little interruption from the state (non-possessors).

**Prejudice** Rigid, negative attitudes based on faulty, preconceived, inflexible generalizations, which numb our ability to understand others. Prejudice too readily violates objective standards of fairness, justice and impartiality.

**Proletariat** (proh-luh-TAYR-ee-uht) Workers, the "have nots" in Communist theory

**Promised Land** Area of present day Israel, the land the Bible says God especially designated for the Jewish peoples

**Proverb** Short, pithy saying commonplace in most every culture

**Qur'an** (QOOR-ahn) Holy Book of Islam, revealed by God to the prophet Muhammad

**Rabbi** (RAB-i) Leaders, teachers and scholars of Jewish religious and community life

**Ramadan** (RAH-mah-dahn) Holy month of fasting for Muslims. No eating, drinking, smoking or engaging in sexual relations occurs from sun up to sun down.

**Raskol** Term for "Old Believers" who did not want to change their liturgical practice within the Russian Orthodox Church.

**Rasputin, Gregory** (ras-PYOO-tuhn) Wandering holy man who shared Russian power with Nicholas II's wife Alexandra while Nicholas was on the Front.

**Reconstructionism** Jewish school of thought which advocates an all encompassing "civilization" approach to faith and practice.

**Reform Judaism** Liberal school of Jewish practice which sees God's relationship as an ongoing process throughout history. relationship with God is the emphasis.

**Religious orders** Communities of Christians, within the Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic tradition, who observe vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. Monks and nuns are part of these holy orders.

**Religious terrorism** Violence done in the name of strongly held belief or violence which uses religion as a pretext for its justification

**Reminders** Qur'an quotes in architecture and on household objects, calls to prayer, beautiful mosques and minarets, are designed to instill right practice within Muslims.

**“Renovated” or “Living” Church** Group of clergy who cooperated with the Communists in 1922, breaking the internal unity of the Russian Orthodox Church until 1941.

**Romanov, Mikhail** (mi-khi-EEL ROH-mah-nohf, ruled 1613-1645) Restored law and order to Russian state, and established a dynasty lasting over 300 years. Serfs--peasants with no rights--came into being under his rule.

**Rosh Hashanah** (rohsh ha-shah-NAH) New Year’s Day, the beginning of the Jewish calendar. It marks the anniversary of the creation of the world.

**Rurik** (ROOR-ik) Varangian prince who began rule over Kievan Russia in A.D. 862

**Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia** Orthodox emigre groups which broke away from Moscow in part because of Church cooperation with Stalin and the Soviets  
Russian Orthodoxy

**Russian Soul** Depth of Russian romantic spirit and character. Expresses itself in emphasis on feeling, sentiment, nostalgia for the past and valuing of suffering over satisfaction. Characterized in part by prolonged patience which, when finally exhausted, give way to explosive anger.

**Russification** Imposition of Russian language, culture and customs upon the diverse nationalities and ethnic groups within the late 19th century Russian state.

**Sacrament** sign or symbol which instills God’s special grace. The Orthodox Eastern and Roman Catholic Churches have seven sacraments.

**Saints** Persons identified by the church as spiritually unique individuals, who are then treated with reverence and awe by means of liturgy and church proclamation



**Salat** (shul-LAH-ty--prayers) Five times each day, Muslims pray in Arabic. Salat consists mainly of verses from the Qur'an, praises to God, and requests for guidance. Adherents bow toward the Kaabah in Mecca when praying.

**Sarah** Abraham's wife who was unable to have a child until, in her old age, she gave birth to Isaac.

**Sawm** (SOO-uhm--fasting) During the month of Ramadan, thanksgiving is expressed, discipline shown, and communal solidarity and reconciliation affirmed. Practitioners abstain from food, drink, smoking and sexual relations from dawn to sunset.

**Seder** (SAY-dih-er) Traditional dinner at Passover time, where Jewish people remember freedom from slavery in Egypt

**Seraphim of Sarov, Saint** (1759-1833) Orthodox leader who revived the ancient monastic practices of the Hesychast tradition

**Sergius, Saint** (1314-92) Spiritual father of monastic renewal in Russia

**Sestanovich, Stephen** Ambassador-at-Large and Special Adviser to the Secretary of State for the New Independent States

**Shahada** (sha-HAH-tyd-ah--witnessing) This first pillar of Islam is the essential creed of Muslim belief. It is repeatedly invoked as part of daily prayer. The shahada states: 'There is no god but God and Muhammad is the messenger of God.'

**Shamail** Tatar calligraphers who specialize in writing highly ornamental verses from the Qur'an.

**Sharia** (sha-REE-ah) Religious law of Islam. It can vary from state to state and within various Muslim movements.

**Slavophile** Russian school of political/cultural thought which emphasizes Slavic roots, Russia's unique cultural values, the primacy of the Eastern Orthodox Church and a idealization of mir values.

**Slavs** (slahv) Group of peoples who historically settled in eastern, southeastern, and central Europe. West Slavs are ancestors of the Poles, Czechs and Slovaks; South Slavs of Bulgarians, Serbs and Croatians; East Slavs of Russians, Ukrainians and Belorussians.

**Solzhenitsyn, Aleksandr** (sohl-zhuh-NEETS-in) Russian author sentenced to hard labor in Siberia after serving as a military officer in World War II. Works include One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich (describing single day's horrors for a political prisoner in a Stalinist labor camp), First Circle and Cancer Ward, the Gulag Archipelago (a condemnation of police terror and imprisonment practices under the Communist regime), and August 1914, an account of the first 11 days of World War I.

**Soviets** Russian word for councils

**St. Seraphim** (SER-ah-fim, 1759-1833) Reviver of the Hesychast tradition who influenced many small monasteries in the early 19th century.

**St. Sergius** (SUHR-jee-ahs, @1314-1392) A Russian Orthodox saint, known for his kindness, humility, love, help to others, work, learning in addition to life of contemplation and observance. Founded a monastery north of Moscow.

**Stalin, Joseph** (STAHL-uhn, 1879-1953) Son of former serf, theological student turned Marxist who led Russia for nearly 30 years.

**Stereotypes** Rigid biases applied to all peoples of a particular group--thus simplifying and demeaning others. Perceptions become immune to logic and experience. A stereotyped template skews all incoming information. Depersonalization and dehumanization result. Individuals become caricatured, distorted, and seen too often only in a negative light.

**Sura** (SOO-ruh) A chapter of the Qur'an

**Suvorov, Alexander** (ah-leh-KSAHN-dehr soo-VOH-rof, 1729-1800)  
Regarded as the ablest military commander Russia ever  
produced for his leading of the forced retreat in 1799-1800  
and other exploits.

**Tartar** (TAHR-tahr) An early Russian term for Mongols. Also  
written Tatar.

**Tatar** (TAH-tahr) Ethnic group comprising 3.8 percent of the  
Russian Federation population. Three subgroups make up the  
Tatars, the Volga, Crimean and Siberian Tatars. Most are  
Sunni Muslim, with distant associations with the invaders  
during the Mongol Empire.

**Tchaikovsky, Peter Illyich** (IL-yich chi-KOHF-skee, 1840-1893)  
Russian composer who drew from native Russian landscapes and  
folk songs to create works of great emotional impact and  
beauty.

**Theotokos** (thay-oh-TOHK-uhs) Title given to the Virgin Mary  
as the Mother of Christ

**Third Rome** With the fall of Rome in 410, and the fall of  
Constantinople in 1453 (the "Second Rome"), Russian Orthodox  
faithful see Moscow as the "Third Rome" or head of Eastern  
Orthodox practice in the world.

**Tikhon, Patriarch** In Oct 1917, Russian Orthodox delegates  
meeting in Moscow elected this Metropolitan of Moscow  
Patriarch. He was the first to serve in this capacity for  
some 225 years. Tikhon died in 1925.

**Tolstoy, Leo** (TOL-stoi, 1828-1910) Russian novelist whose  
works are filled with a driving, overpowering sense of life  
and people. War and Peace depicts the War of 1812. Anna  
Karenina is another of his great works.

**Torah** The first five books of the Bible (Genesis, Exodus,  
Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy), being the first of  
three Jewish divisions of the Scriptures. It may also refer  
to the totality of Jewish Scriptures plus the Talmud (Jewish  
law and tradition).

**Transfiguration** Day in Eastern Orthodoxy, which recalls Christ's divine nature, where his face shown brightly on the mountain.

**Trotsky, Leon** (TRAHT-skee, 1879-1940) Associate of Lenin who believed all underdeveloped lands needed a Communist revolution. Only then would the Russian revolution succeed. Killed by Stalin's people in Mexico in 1940.

**Tzar** (zahr) Russian ruler who owes allegiance to no one

**Ukrainian** (yoo-KRA-nee-ahn) Ethnic group comprising 3 percent of the Russian Federation population. Along with Russians and Belorussians, Ukrainians are historically one of the East Slavs. Throughout history, this ethnic group has sought to preserve its distinct culture.

**Umma** (OOM-muh) Peoplehood--the majesty and mystique of being a part of the Muslim community

**Underground Church** Practice of the faith under Communism in unconventional, clandestine ways

**Uniates** (YOO-nee-ats) Ukrainian Catholic Church adherents who, since 1596, administratively follow the Pope of the Roman Catholic Church but liturgically practice Eastern Orthodoxy.

**Usury** (YOO zhuh-ree) Lending money at excessively high interest

**Varangians** (vah-RAN-jee-ahns) Early warrior traders, related to the Vikings, who in A.D. 862 received an invitation from Novgorod to rule their area. Rus is another name for Varangian

**Veneration** To regard or treat with reverence or awe. Icons within Russian Orthodoxy are venerated rather than worshipped.

**Verses of the Sword** Two verses of the Qur'an which describe the obligatory nature of fighting (under certain conditions) within Islam

**Vladimir I** (vlah-DEE-mir, @956-1015) Grandson of Rurik who ruled Kiev from 980-1015. Under Vladimir, Russia adopted Eastern Orthodox Christianity.

**Wadu** (WAH-doo) Facilities in a mosque where the faithful can wash hands, face and feet

**Warsaw Pact** Warsaw Treaty Organization which arose in response to NATO. Consisted of Russian satellite nations

**Yeltsin, Boris** Russia's first president after the fall of Communism.

**Yom Kippur** (YOHM kee-poor) Day of Atonement, the most important Jewish holy day. Repentance, forgiveness and a right

**Zakat** (ZA-kat--almsgiving) The faithful demonstrate tangible worship by giving "a kind of loan to God" of from two to ten percent of one's income, payable at year's end. Charitable causes receive support in more spontaneous manners, as needs arise.

**Zhukov, Georgii** (ZHOO-kuhf) General and Marshal of the Soviet Union who led the Soviet armies to victory at Stalingrad and Kursk, giving them the initiative for the remainder of the war.



"Are you committed to making your piece of the world a better place? Are you committed to your family, your classmates, your church [synagogue, mosque], your country? Succeeding...will require many things, not the least of which is commitment...You must be committed to doing the right thing, no matter what the consequence. Be a team player. Teamwork is the only way to get the tough jobs done. What does teamwork mean? It means taking care of each other...looking out for classmates... shipmates...squadron mates. To take care of one another, you have to be loyal to one another, but more importantly, you must be committed to a set of guiding principles by which you will live your life forever."

Admiral Jay Johnson, Chief of Naval Operations, Remarks at the U.S. Naval Academy, 31 July 1997

## Pronunciation Key

(Adapted from HarperCollins Dictionary of World Religions, ed. Jonathan Smith, [New York: HarperCollins, 1995]), p. xxvi.

Symbol	Sound	Symbol	Sound
a	cat	ng	sing
ah	father	o	hot
ahr	lard	oh	go
air	care	oi	boy
aw	jaw	oo	foot
ay	pay	oo	boot
b	bug	oor	poor
ch	chew	or	for
d	do	ou	how
e,eh	pet	p	pat
ee	seem	r	run
f	fun	s	so
g	good	sh	sure
h	hot	t	toe
hw	whether	th	thin
i	it	th	then
i	sky	ts	tsetse
ihr	ear	tw	twin
j	joke	uh	ago
k	king	uhr	her
kh	ch as in German Buch	v	vow
ks	vex	w	weather
kw	quill	y	young
l	love	z	zone
m	mat	zh	vision
n	not		